

REVIEWS



BOOKS

Reviewed by Ruth Parnell

K2: QUEST OF THE GODS

by Ralph Ellis

Edu Books, UK, & AUP, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-9531913-62-2 (UK)
0-932813-99-2 (USA) (188pp tpb)
Price: A\$33.00; NZ\$47.00 + p&h; £10.00;
Euro20.90 inc. p&h; US\$16.00 + s&h
Availability: **Australia/NZ/UK/Europe—**
NEXUS offices; **USA—**AUP, tel (815) 253
6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

Surely the architects of Khemit, ancient Egypt, received inspiration for the design of their pyramids from the natural pyramid-shaped landforms found in the desert west of the Nile. Maybe, but this is not Ralph Ellis's territory in his sequel to *Thoth: Architect of the Universe* (see review in 5/05).

Ellis reasons from his detailed studies of the geometry that the cross-section of the Great Pyramid is a map whose area can be understood when it is turned upside down. The King's Chamber is a representation of Africa, the Grand Gallery depicts India and Asia, and the roof of the Queen's Chamber portrays the Karakoram triangle near the Hindu Kush in the western Himalaya.

At the upper centre of this inverted triangle is K2, arguably the world's second-highest mountain. But what was so special about this region? Had Alexander the Great been onto something when he staged "Dionysian" expeditions there? Had the Great Pyramid, originally encased in gleaming white limestone, been built to mimic K2—a four-sided peak oriented to the four cardinal points, though having an orientation differing by 90 degrees? Was the Pyramid's causeway

designed to imitate K2's glacier? Spurious ideas, you may think, but ones that require us to think outside the square.

So what was the purpose of this signpost of antiquity? Ellis goes out on a limb, suggesting that the map points to the location of the legendary Hall of Records. And he went so far as to venture there in the hope of finding clues to hidden doorways and shafts matching those of the Great Pyramid. His expedition was foiled, unfortunately, so the ultimate test of his theory is yet to come.

THE ORION PROPHECY

by Patrick Geryl & Gino Ratinckx

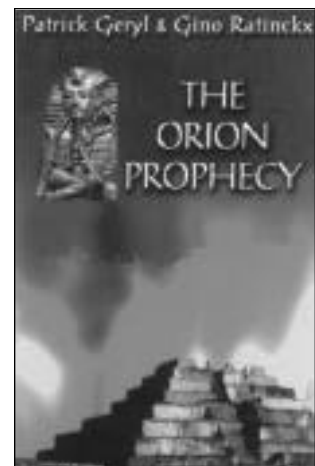
Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-932813-91-7 (264pp tpb)
Price: A\$35.00; NZ\$49.00 + p&h; £16.50
inc. p&h; Euro21.90; US\$16.95 + s&h
Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe—**
NEXUS offices; **USA—**AUP, tel (815) 253
6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

A super-catastrophe will befall the Earth in late December 2012, just as it did nearly 12,000 years ago, and 12,000 years before that, says researcher Patrick Geryl. In developing his thesis for *The Orion Prophecy*, he teamed up with archaeo-astronomer Gino Ratinckx to shed light on his study into ancient Egyptian artefacts—particularly the Zodiac in the Temple of Dendera and the *Egyptian Book of the Dead* as well as the Dresden Codex of the Maya. He has discovered that these artefacts all include precise mathematical and astronomical information about the cyclical nature of these prophesied "end times" events, including knowledge of sunspot megacycles and the precession of the zodiac constellations.

The imminent sign will be in the sky when Venus moves in a retrograde circular motion

above Orion; at that time, according to the coded warnings, the Sun will erupt with megabursts of magnetic activity, which will in turn cause the Earth's magnetic field to reverse and the planet to spin in reverse and flip on its axis. The last time this happened was in 9792 BC, Geryl has deduced from the records. The resultant crustal slip, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and mega tidal waves will lay waste to the planet and most of its inhabitants. All electronic communication systems will become inoperable.

Geryl and Ratinckx are convinced that the Egyptians and Maya had a common ancestor, the Atlanteans, who left behind additional coded information within a labyrinth in Egypt, and the authors believe they know its precise location. Geryl implores us to take this information seriously and prepare for how we might survive the cataclysm and warn future generations. As we watch our Sun exhibiting strange activity, we'd do well to ponder this Earth-shattering prophecy.





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PRINCESS DIANA: The Hidden Evidence

by Jon King and John Beveridge

SPI Books, USA, 2002

ISBN 1-56171-922-6 (408pp hc)

Price: £18.95 + £3.00 p&h; Euro31.90;

US\$19.00 + \$3.95 s&h in USA

Availability: **UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices;

USA—SPI Books, tel (212) 431 5011,

email sales@spibooks.com, website

www.spibooks.com

We haven't heard the last about the tragic death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and this book from investigative journalists Jon King and John Beveridge adds a few more twists to the plot. And plot it probably was. Even HRH Prince Michael of Albany, Head of the House of Stewart and President of the European Council of Princes (who wrote the foreword for the book and gave an interview to the authors) is of the opinion that Diana's death was no accident.

The authors devote only a few chapters to the anomalies surrounding the crash and its investigation before proceeding to describe the "agencies of Masonic government" that had a motive to see the Princess put out of the way. From what their government and intelligence sources have told them, the authors conclude that MI6 and the CIA had a hand in ordering the dastardly operation.

Prince Michael's contribution to the book is interesting, considering the Spencer family's historical and bloodline links with the Stewarts. The drama that unfolds is a history of power struggles between bloodlines—both legitimate and political (i.e., manipulated by Rome)—that can be traced back to the Dark Ages Merovingian kings, the kings of Judah (Jesus, Solomon and David included) and the Egyptian pharaohs.

The authors are not the first to question the legitimacy of the House of Windsor, but they do so openly in the context of its corporate power base as The Firm and how the Princess of Wales might have threatened it. The authors argue that her stand against landmines and her visit to Angola—already well supplied with landmines made in the UK—represented almost as great a threat to the British Crown and the Establishment as her relationship with Dodi Al-Fayed.

If only all this were common knowledge...

ALTAI-HIMALAYA: A Travel Diary by Nicholas Roerich

Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2001

(first published 1929)

ISBN 0-932813-93-3 (423pp tpb)

Price: A\$37.00; NZ\$53.00 + p&h; £18.50

inc. p&h; Euro24.90; US\$18.95 + s&h

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe**—

NEXUS offices; **USA**—AUP, tel (815) 253

6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

Russian-born mystic, artist, philosopher, scientist, educator, author and explorer Nicholas Roerich (1874–1947) was a true New Renaissance man. To him, beauty was the fundamental truth, and he devoted his life to expressing and appreciating this primary aesthetic. In 1920 he travelled to the USA with an exhibition of his paintings and stayed on to continue his work of uniting the arts and establishing cultural and arts centres as he had done in his homeland.

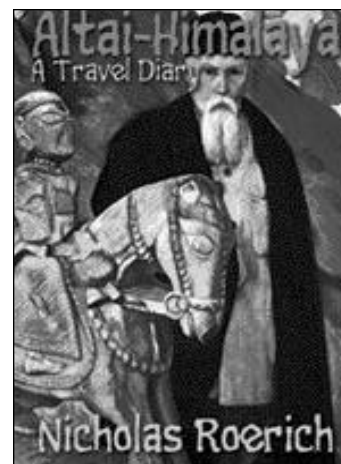
In late 1923, Roerich set out on what would become a five-year journey through some of the most beautiful and unforgiving landscapes in the world. The expedition travelled from Ceylon to India and then Kashmir; over the Himalaya and across Sinkiang; up to the Altai Mountains and on

to Omsk; then to Irkutsk near Lake Baikal, down through Mongolia and the Gobi Desert to Tibet and back over the Himalaya.

Roerich's diary of the expedition, *Altai-Himalaya*, was published in 1929, and this reprint of the original includes 20 reproductions from the inspirational artworks he painted in his travels. The apt introduction is by his US contemporary, the sacred geometrician/architect Claude Bragdon.

Roerich wrote his diary on horseback and in caravans on his journey so it has a freshness and immediacy, bringing to life the diverse peoples, places and experiences. The expedition faced many hardships, and they were detained by Tibetan authorities for five months at 15,000 feet in summer tents amidst extreme cold and deprivation.

This is a mystical travelogue, and Roerich's perspectives on sacred knowledge, ancient traditions such as Shambhala and cultural change are insightful and invaluable. (Also see Twilight Zone this issue.)



REVIEWS



THE HEALING MIRACLES OF COCONUT OIL

by Bruce Fife, ND

HealthWise/Piccadilly Books, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-941599-51-5 (192pp tpb)
Price: A\$28.00–A\$34.00; £15.00;
Euro25.00 inc. p&h; US\$16.00 + US\$3
s&h in USA/Canada, US\$6.00 elsewhere
Availability: **Australia**—Empire Publishing
Service; **UK**—Players Press, tel 01708
749119; **Europe**—NEXUS Office; **USA**—
Empire Publishing Service, tel (818) 784
8918; Piccadilly Books, website www.
piccadillybooks.com

For millions of people living in the tropics, the coconut is not just a staple of their diet but a preventive and curative medicine, as it has been for millennia. As a rule this traditional diet, supplemented with fruit, carbohydrate-rich vegetables and fish, means that cancer, heart disease, arthritis, degenerative disease, diabetes, etc. are virtually nonexistent in these communities.

As naturopath Bruce Fife discovered, there is a wealth of literature in the scientific and medical journals attesting to the health benefits of coconuts and coconut oil. But coconut oil—containing the medium-chain fat, lauric acid, which has similar nutritional properties to human breast milk—became the target of a smear campaign in the mid-1980s. It was orchestrated by the American Soybean Association, intent on capitalising on the public fear already stirred up by the American Heart Association that saturated fat is linked to heart disease. Ironically, the soybean oil that food makers switched to is hydrogenated—and research shows that consumption of such oils clogs the arteries and causes heart disease and stroke.

Fife's aim is to turn around this public perception and wake people up to the astounding health properties of medium-chain saturated tropical oil, especially coconut. It has powerful microbe-fighting and health-restoring abilities, so much so that it is being used successfully in the treatment of HIV, AIDS and related infections such as herpes and as a weapon against chronic fatigue syndrome, obesity, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, cancer, skin disorders and more.

This information (and Dr Enig's article in this issue) has certainly opened my eyes to the wonders of this natural product—and may well do the same for you.

YOU ARE BEING LIED TO

edited by Russ Kick
The Disinformation Company, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-9664100-7-6 (399pp l/f tpb)
Price: US\$19.95 + \$6.30 s&h USA/
Canada, + US\$9.00 foreign; Euro25.90
Availability: **USA**—The Disinformation
Company, tel (212) 473 1125, fax (212)
634 4316, www.disinfo.com; Consortium
Book Sales, tel (651) 221 9035, website
www.cbsd.com; **Europe**—NEXUS Office

The concept that "we are being lied to" is quite familiar to NEXUS readers, but sometimes it helps to remind ourselves just how it happens and get a sense of the broad expanse of territory such falsehoods can encompass. Russ Kick, on behalf of the New York-based Disinformation Company, has compiled an anthology of specially commissioned, previously unpublished and published material from a wide selection of contributors who wouldn't necessarily be assembled within the same pages.

Subtitled "The Disinformation Guide to Media Distortion, Historical Whitewashes

and Cultural Myths", this book uncovers many of the lies, untruths, half-truths, distortions, scams and gloss-overs perpetrated by the media, politicians, corporations, academics, organised religions, the scientific establishment and more. Contributors include investigative reporters, political dissidents, academic whistleblowers, media watchdogs, social critics, maverick scientists and rogue scholars. Among the luminaries are well known and underground "leftist/progressives", such as Greg Bishop, Howard Bloom, Noam Chomsky, Alex Constantine, Michael Cremo, Riane Eisler, Jim Marrs, Michael Parenti, Robin Ramsay, Douglas Rushkoff, Kenn Thomas, Jonathan Vankin and Gary Webb. (Many "rightist/conservatives" were invited to participate, but in the end all of them declined.)

Russ Kick, whose *Outposts* catalogue we reviewed in 3/03, also contributes to this well-produced, jam-packed volume that's a must for any thinking person's coffee table.





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CANCER: CAUSE, CURE AND COVER-UP

by Ron Gdanski

Nadex Publishing, Canada, 2000
ISBN 0-685665-0-2 (473pp tpb)
Price: A\$55.00; US\$24.95; C\$34.95
Availability: **Australia**—Health Books Australia, tel (02) 9983 1299, website www.healthbooksaustralia.com.au; **USA**—New Century Press, tel (619) 476 7400; **Canada**—Feel Better Books and Tapes, tel/fax (905) 945 2180, 800 656 7606

Alternative health products manufacturer Ron Gdanski writes that cancer begins when a cellular membrane wall is broken due to nutritional deficiencies, chemical toxins, viral growths, physical injury or parasites. Repair is a natural process, where the autonomic nervous system increases the current of electrical energy at the site to make DNA replicate. But when the new cells fail to connect with the old, replication goes out of control. If any of those new cells are infected, the microbes therein multiply within the cell cytoplasm. So, rather than being genetically based, cancer is "the continuous multiplication, mutation and rejection of membrane cells that fail to repair an injury", and primarily it has a microbial trigger.

Having spent six years immersing himself in the subject, Gdanski concludes that researchers as far back as Russell in the 1890s, Rife in the 1920s–30s and, more recently, Gaston Naessens and Hulda Clark, were/are all on the right track in identifying microbes—bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites—as cancer-causing agents. Kill the microbes and keep them away, and the cancer goes. This way of thinking has already made an enormous difference to cancer patients who have opted for safer alterna-

tives over mainstream medicine's destructive, low-success solutions which are based on a false understanding of the disease.

In this comprehensive book, Gdanski also explains how and why effective cancer cures are possible—cures including restoring electrolyte balance, cleansing the lymphatic system, using amino acids and oxygen, eliminating parasites and ammonia toxicity. And he goes into how and why these cures are ignored/suppressed by vested interests within the medical/pharmaceutical industry.

This is essential reading for health professionals and interested laypersons alike.

THE A.T. FACTOR: Piece for a Jigsaw Part III by Leonard G. Cramp

Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-932813-92-5 (375pp tpb)
Price: A\$37.00; NZ\$49.00 + p&h; £16.50 inc. p&h; Euro21.90; US\$16.95 + s&h
Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—AUP, tel (815) 253 6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

This third and final instalment of Leonard Cramp's *Piece for a Jigsaw* series is more autobiographical than the first two titles (see reviews in 4/03 and 6/06). Cramp is a British aerospace engineer, scientist, inventor and UFO researcher who has spent more than five decades developing his theories on the Cosmic Matrix and tinkering away in his workshops, creating VTOL craft and experimenting with antigravity devices and space propulsion drives—as can be seen here in the copious supporting documentary material, photographs and tech drawings.

In *The A.T. Factor* ("A.T." standing for "advanced time"), Cramp introduces his

remarkable life story with reference to key paranormal events that set the tone for his inquiries and endeavours from an early age. He goes on to describe how various "precognitive excursions" including dreams and synchronicities—forms of time travel in themselves—helped him in developing all manner of craft from disc-shaped hoverplanes to a "supercar". Such experiences which defy the notion of time as a linear constant are a normal part of living in the Cosmic Matrix, Cramp has concluded, and he obviously puts his ideas into practice.

He also explains the background to his interest in UFO propulsion and the Adamski craft sightings and relates the experiences he and his family had in observing UFOs near their home in Hertfordshire in 1954 and on the Isle of Wight in the 1960s.

Cramp's life story and works are an inspiration for inventors, UFO buffs, free energy researchers and free thinkers everywhere, and his books are classics in the genre.



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THE WORLD'S SIXTEEN CRUCIFIED SAVIORS: Christianity Before Christ by Kersey Graves

Adventures Unlimited Press, USA, 2001 (first published 1875)
ISBN 0-932813-95-X (423pp tpb)
Price: A\$38.00; NZ\$57.00 + p&h; £18.50 inc. p&h; Euro25.90; US\$19.95 + s&h
Availability: Aust/NZ/UK/Europe—NEXUS offices; USA—AUP, tel (815) 253 6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

This is a reprint of the sixth edition of Kersey Graves's 1875 classic, subtitled "Christianity Before Christ", which must have caused quite a stir in its time and is still controversial. Graves's previous work was titled *The Biography of Satan*, which went into seven editions—and gives some idea of his popularity. In *The World's Sixteen Crucified Saviors*, Graves spits fire particularly at the Roman Catholic Church for basing its beliefs, dogmas, rituals and holidays on pagan precedents, hundreds and thousands of years older, but he also makes a vehement attack on all religions which hold that they were created by divine intervention—which covers most of them.

Acknowledging the seminal work of earlier scholars such as Sir Godfrey Higgins, Graves is at pains to point out the mostly oriental origins of Christianity. Apparently there were at least 16 avatars/saviours/messiahs before Jesus Christ came along, whose mythologies contain uncanny parallels: prophetic announcements, immaculate conception and virgin birth, a common birthday of 25 December, saviours of royal descent, anointing, crucifixion, resurrection, ascension and so on. Get the picture? Many of these details of JC's predecessors have been suppressed in the West, but the "superhero"

cast includes Krishna, Mithra, Osiris, Thoth, Hesus of the Druids, Prometheus, Buddha, Quetzalcoatl and more. Furthermore, the Gospel stories have older sources in ancient records such as the Vedas of India.

With a new foreword-cum-critique by scholar Acharya S, author of *The Christ Conspiracy*, this reprint is important reading for seekers of religious and spiritual truth.

THE ATLANTIS SECRET: A Complete Decoding of Plato's Lost Continent by Alan F. Alford

Eridu Books, UK, 2001
ISBN 0-9527994-1-3 (451pp tpb)
Price: £18.00 (Euro orders add 10% p&h, rest of world, add 20% p&h); Euro28.80; US\$27.00 + p&h
Availability: UK—Eridu Books, tel 01543 452577, fax 01543 370453, website www.eridu.co.uk; Europe—NEXUS office, tel +31 (0)321 380558

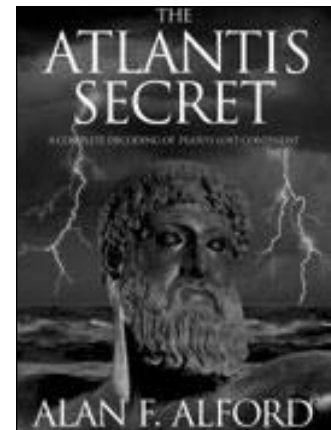
Independent researcher Alan Alford stated his case for the ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian religions being "exploded planet cults" in *The Phoenix Solution* (5/06) and *When the Gods Came Down* (7/05). Now, in *The Atlantis Secret*, he presents a solid argument for Plato's Atlantis story as well as the ancient Greek religions, gods, myths and mystery schools also being based on this exploded planet idea, which was borrowed from Sumer and Egypt and has gained scientific credibility in recent years.

The original source for the Atlantis myth can be found in Plato's *Timaeus* and *Critias*, so Alford took on the Herculean task of reinterpreting Plato (a philosopher/mystic, not a geographer) in terms of the Greek world view of his time. This was a world that

believed that the stories of the gods were the literal truth, as was Plato's story of the war between Athens and Atlantis. And Plato, being an initiate into the mysteries, would have wanted to preserve knowledge of the exploded planet by encoding it in his work for those with eyes to see.

Alford concludes that the lost continent and city of Atlantis never existed here, but were located in the "heavenly" realm before they exploded, raining down on Earth and seeding the birth of the ancient Athenians. He claims that with this hypothesis he can tie up all the loose ends of Plato's account, which he acknowledges can be understood as an allegory on the social-political climate of Plato's day. But he goes further, suggesting that the Atlantis story is also a metaphor for the creation of the Universe and Time—an ancient, mystical Big Bang cosmogony.

Alford's hypothesis puts a completely new spin on ancient cultures and religions. His findings are especially relevant today as we contemplate the ever-changing Cosmos.





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FROM THE MOTHERLAND TO THE MOTHERSHIP

by Shurlene B. Wallace
with Earlene V. Carr

Crystal City Publications, TX, USA, 2001
ISBN 0-75962-871-8 (203pp tpb & hc)
Price: US\$4.95 (e-book), US\$11.95 (tpb)
+ US\$5.75 s&h in USA, US\$14.00 s&h to
Canada, US\$6.75 elsewhere; Euro23.90
Availability: **USA**—1stbooks.com, tel
(812) 339 6000, 1888 280 7715 (toll free),
website 1stbooks.com/bookview/6393;
Europe—NEXUS Office, tel +31 (0)321
380558, fax (0)321 318892



In 1995, Shurlene Wallace had the first in a series of life-changing paranormal experiences. They involved contact with interplanetary and interdimensional beings and travelling throughout the galaxy and dimensions in both physical and astral form. She prefers to describe them as "trips" rather than "abductions", and she reports that most of them were very positive and life-affirming. She may have been subjected to experimentation, but she also underwent some powerful physical self-healing as a result.

Uncommonly, her few contacts with so-called Greys involved their shape-shifting into other beings; on most of her travels in spacecraft and to other worlds she was accompanied by very human-looking types.

Fortunately, Shurlene had the support of her ufology-literate, identical twin sister Earlene Carr to help her make sense of her experiences psychologically and understand them in their historical and cultural contexts. After one time when Shurlene was supposedly teleported to Mars and interacted with a Black race of humans, Earlene explained (referring also to Robert Temple's *Sirius Mystery*, Credo Mutwa's depictions of aliens and the Face on Mars controversy) that various African peoples—and many fellow African-Americans—regard it as fact that they originated from the Red Planet.

Shurlene comes across as a sincere, honest

and loving person, convinced of the reality of her experiences and wanting to help others. As to how she differentiates between out-of-body astral and physical travel, the resultant symptoms are much more intense if her physical body has been disassembled for the trip! Written from the heart, her book should give reassurance to those coming to terms with their unusual experiences.

CROP CIRCLES, GODS AND THEIR SECRETS

by Robert J. Boerman

The Ptah Foundation, Brummen, The Netherlands, 2000
ISBN 90-805716-1-X (162pp tpb)
Price: A\$25.00; NZ\$45.00 + p&h;
£10.90; Euro15.90; US\$14.00

Availability: **Australia/NZ/UK/Europe**—NEXUS offices; **USA**—Adventures Unlimited, tel (815) 253 6390, website www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com

Dutch crop circle researcher Robert Boerman is a relative latecomer to the scene. He was inspired when he discovered a circular formation near his home in Brummen in 1997 and found a strange, "spiritually uplifting" crystalline residue within it. His interest in sacred mysteries set him on a path to crack the code of at least some of the glyphs that have been appearing in growing number and variety over the last 20 years in many parts of the world, particularly southern England.

In *Crop Circles, Gods and Their Secrets* (first published in the Dutch language in 1999), Boerman gives a brief history of the phenomenon, then gets down to the basics of the internal geometric construction of the circular formations. In a further move towards decoding them, he analyses the designs in terms of their being angelic seals corresponding to specific higher spiritual energies. But what do they mean?

For clues he turned to the Hebrew Gematria and alphabet, and came to realise that certain glyphs contain information about humanity's origins, our planetary history, our relationship with extraterrestrial beings who may have tampered with our DNA, and about our future. The 1991 "Dolphin" glyph, for instance, may represent the orbit of Nibiru, the "planet of the gods" known to the Sumerians and identified by Sitchin as passing through Earth's orbit every 3,600 or fewer years. Could the crop circle makers be warning us about Nibiru's imminent return, which Boerman calculates as expected in 2012? Is it the same as "Planet X", which some NASA scientists are secretly saying will wreak havoc in May 2003? Boerman's speculations are certainly thought-provoking and timely.

REVIEWS



TEMPEST & EXODUS

by **Ralph Ellis**

Edfu Books, UK, & AUP, USA, 2001

ISBN 0-9531913-89 (UK)

0-932813-98-4 (USA) (269pp tpb)

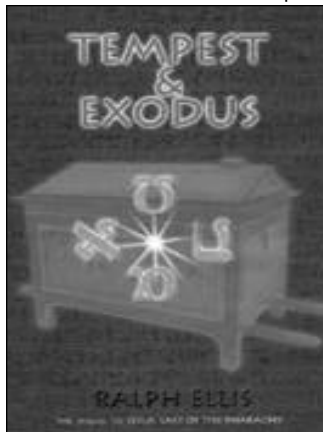
Price: A\$33.00; £10.00; Euro20.90;

US\$16.00 + s&h

Availability: **Aust/NZ/UK/Europe—**

NEXUS offices; **USA—AUP**, tel (815) 253

6390, www.adventuresunlimitedpress.com



In this sequel to *Jesus, Last of the Pharaohs* (see reviews, 6/04), Ralph Ellis expands on his hypothesis about the origin of the Israelites and gives alternative translations of hieroglyphs, in the process giving quite a different perspective on the roots of Judaism and Christianity as well as the Egyptian religions. Having already established that the patriarchs of the Israelites were the Hyksos Shepherd Kings, that Abraham and Jacob were Hyksos pharaohs and that Moses was Akhenaton's brother, now Ellis provides evidence that the Hyksos originated in Lower Egypt and were not a tribe of barbaric invaders from Asia.

Fundamental to the Hyksos monotheistic religious belief system was a form of Sun/Cosmos worship centred around the Giza pyramids—structures that had to have been in place even before the rise of the first Old Kingdom dynasty, Ellis reckons from records at Heliopolis. Ultimately a clash of beliefs between Lower and Upper Egypt led to an Exodus being negotiated between the two kingdoms, ensuring that the Hyksos would leave Egypt. Their departure and the Israelites' exodus were actually one and the same event, Ellis believes.

According to the so-called Tempest Stele of Ahmose I, the Exodus plan was already on the drawing board when a great "storm" affected the land—precipitated by the eruption of Thera in the Aegean Sea c. 1625 BC—but the storm was more of a social/religious/political turmoil. Physical damage to the Upper Egyptians' architecture and icons was allegedly caused by the departing

Hyksos people, who had earlier been given all the precious materials to build a mobile temple—the Ark of the Covenant—according to the insistence of the Hyksos Pharaoh Jacob and in agreement with Ahmose I.

The notion that the Mt Sinai of the Israelites was one and the same as the Great Pyramid is just one of many surprises in this fascinating rewrite of Old Testament history.

NEW ZEALAND'S HIDDEN PAST

by **Ross Wiseman**

Discovery Press, New Zealand, 2001

ISBN 0-473-07303-X (134pp tpb)

Price: NZ\$34.95 + p&h in NZ; overseas

orders add NZ\$10.00 p&h; US\$20.00

Availability: **New Zealand—NEXUS**

Office, tel (09) 405 1963; overseas orders:

Discovery Press, 22 Mountain Road,

Henderson Valley, Auckland 8, tel +64 9

836 0772, fax +64 9 837 6364, email

ross_discovery@hotmail.com, website

www.4discoverypress.com

Author and amateur archaeologist Ross Wiseman continues to rile the academic establishment—and members of the Maori community—with the publication of his latest book, *New Zealand's Hidden Past*. In fact, several times in 2001 he tried to launch it officially and stage an exhibition of rock marking castings, but was turned down every time. Why? Presumably because of his claim that New Zealand was settled by seafaring Phoenicians many hundreds of years before the first wave of Maori arrived.

Wiseman touched on this theory in his 1998 book, *Pre-Tasman Explorers* (see review, 5/05). He speculates that these maritime Phoenicians would have left Sidon around 677 BC, when the city was attacked by the Assyrians, and made their way via the Indian Ocean and northern Australia to settle in New Zealand in 666 BC. Here he presents many more photos and drawings of apparently Phoenician rock engravings, over 100 of them found in the Lake Taupo area in the middle of the North Island. These engravings depict all sorts of scenes including Phoenician-style ships in trouble at sea, the hunting of the now-extinct moa (a tall, flightless bird), an elephant or Hindu elephant god, as well as symbology and geometry which attests to the settlers' understanding of life, death and spirituality.

There is a map of Lake Taupo as it may have appeared prior to the huge eruption of nearby Mount Tuauhara in AD 186; and an out-of-scale though impressive map of the world including a detailed pre-186 depiction of New Zealand's North and South islands, indicating the existence of nine settlements.

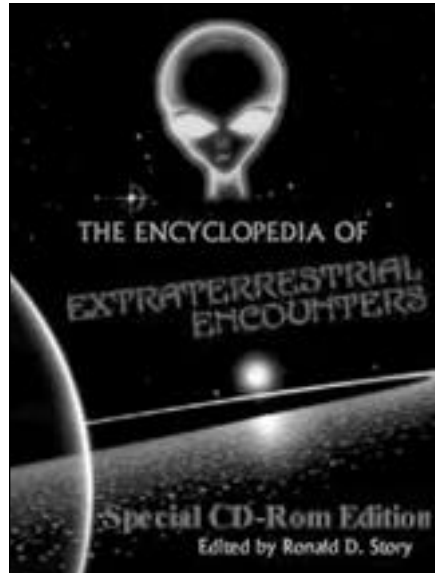
This is a compelling alternative history that should be explored further, even if it treads on a few toes along the way.



REVIEWS

CD-ROMs

Reviewed by Duncan Roads



THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL ENCOUNTERS Special CD-ROM Edition edited by Ronald D. Story

The UFO Encyclopedia Project, USA, 2001 (PDF & MS Word; requires Adobe Acrobat Reader)

Price: US\$9.99 inc. p&h

Distributor: **USA**—Ronald Story, 3540 32nd Avenue N. #114, St Petersburg, FL 33713, tel/fax +1 (727) 528 3789, email RonaldDStory@aol.com, website www.RonaldStory.com

Keen researchers in the field of ufology may recall a book called *The Encyclopedia of UFOs* from around 20 years ago (Doubleday/New English Library). Well, this is the updated CD-ROM version of that book.

Ronald Story is author of several UFO books from the late 1970s through early '80s, including *The Space Gods Revealed* (1976). He is an honours graduate of the University of Arizona and past member of most leading UFO organisations.

As usual, this is another CD-ROM heavily slanted towards PC/Windows platforms, but Mac "must haves" can find the PDF file of the Encyclopedia itself, and it is certainly worth the look. Also included is an MS Word file of the book. There are hundreds of well-written and up-to-date entries, photos, illustrations, articles and interactive hot links to UFO-related websites. The search-and-find capability of the PDF version of the book is terrific. A great buy!



COSMIC ARTIST – Crop Circle Photographs, England, 1983–2001 A Unique Collection by Colin Andrews

Colin Andrews & Memorology LLC, 2001
Minimum system requirements: MS Windows 95; 32MB RAM; Netscape Navigator 4.0, MS Internet Explorer 4.0 or America Online 4.0 web browser

(Note: Not yet available for Macintosh users, but a Mac version may be produced if there is demand)

Price: US\$29.95 + p&h

Distributors: **USA**—Available online from the website www.CosmicArtistCD.com, or by post from Memorology LLC, PO Box 3378, Branford, CT 06405-1978 (checks payable to Memorology LLC);

UK—Circles Phenomenon Research, tel/fax 01264 358402

At last, the CD-ROM I have been waiting for! Over 250 photographs from Colin Andrews's own camera, plus maps and captions—all interactive, with printing capability built in. The photographs cover the years from 1983 to 2001 and certainly feature the most interesting of each year's crop in the English countryside.

My only gripe with the CD-ROM is that it is not (yet) available for Macintosh computers. With PDF file technology so widely used on all platforms, I am surprised it's used so little on CD-ROMs. One day...

Having said that, though, the pictures are of very good quality. Serious researchers will appreciate the locality maps, witness statements and thumbnail pictures which accompany each photograph, plus the ability to search for specific formations via several index formats.

I was hoping to hear some of the sounds reported inside the formations and recorded by researchers over the years, but alas.

All in all, this is great value for money and a "must have" for crop circle fans and researchers alike.

REVIEWS



MUSIC

Reviewed by Richard Giles

REALISE

by Karsh Kale

Six Degrees, USA, 2001 (72mins)
Distributors: **Australia**—MRA, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK/USA**—Six Degrees Records, www.sixdegreesrecords.com

Karsh Kale has a classical Indian tabla background and cut his musical teeth in the Asian Massive sound scene. Using electronica, he interprets the music the way an Indian musician would do, writing in various traditional styles. It makes for an album full of longer-running, snaking melodies and gorgeous Indian vocals. Singers include Vishal Vaid, Falguni Shah, Shahid Siddiqui and Ethiopian sensation Gigi. Also appearing are Indian master Ustad Sultan Khan on sarangi (Indian cello) and Steve Gorn on bansuri flute. An impressive CD, bridging electronica with traditional.

PEOPLE'S COLONY NO. 1

by Temple of Sound & Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali

Real World, UK, 2001 (64mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—MRA; **UK**—Real World, <http://realworld.on.net/colony1>; **USA**—Narada, www.narada.com

One of the great sacred singers of the modern world, Qawwali singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, came from Pakistan. He died only recently. His nephews from the UK, working under the name of Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali, have experimented with a fusion of Western and Islamic devotional singing to produce *People's Colony No. 1*. Tracks are at breakneck speed with deep Sufi poetry and very danceable sounds. Musicians include Neil Sparkes and Count Dubulah from Trans-Global Underground, with guests Jah Wobble and Zafar Ali Khan. Exciting, glistening vocals and music.

EUPHORIA

by Ian Cameron Smith

Rhythmist Prodns, Aust, 2001 (64mins)
Distributors: **Australia/UK/USA**—New World Music, www.newworldmusic.com, www.iancameronsmith.com.au

Ian Cameron Smith, the man with the amber liquid fingers, is back with his latest release, *Euphoria*, incorporating more instrumentalists to give the album international appeal and featuring vocalists including Julie Lodrick and Kirsten Anderson Skelton. Flute, saxophone and Ian's selection of guitars make this one of those fabulous relaxation albums just for sheer pleasure listening. Ian's work is among the most

heartfelt of music today, offering listeners a touch of the sublime. *Euphoria* gives peace for the mind and body in a frantic world.

THROUGH WINDOWS & WALLS

by Peter Kater & R. Carlos Nakai

Silver Wave, USA, 2001 (47mins)
Distributors: **Aust**—New World Music, tel (02) 9565 4522; **UK**—Discord Distribution, tel 01892 863888; **USA**—Silver Wave Records, tel (303) 443 5617, website www.silverwave.com

It's been five years since these two talented musicians last recorded together. With Kater on piano and synthesiser and Nakai on Native American flute and eagle bone whistle, this is an impressive return album. Nakai's powerful, haunting flute work and his deep vocalisations go together with the stirring piano sounds of Kater, making for a magical fusion from these two musicians who produce soul-stirring sounds as masters of their instruments. *Through Windows and Walls* deserves to make it to the top of the transformational music charts.

AFRICAN ODYSSEY

by various artists

Putumayo, USA, 2001 (48mins)
Distributors: **Australia**—MRA Entertainment, tel (07) 3849 6020; **UK**—Pinnacle Imports, tel 01689 870622; **USA**—Putumayo World Music, tel 1888 7888 8629, www.putumayo.com

Much African compilation music features upbeat, funky and percussion-backed styles. For this album, Putumayo brings together the acoustic and melody music of the vast African continent. Some of these artists have never before been heard outside the continent; they come from Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, South Africa, Kenya and Mali. These are very cool, slower, introspective sounds of Africa. Money from sales of this CD goes to African AIDS organisations.

